

CLAIMS:

1. A terminal device, comprising:

a communication means for accessing a server machine via a network;

a storage means for storing content downloaded by the communication means from the server machine, the storage means having a first region which only a system program of the terminal device can access; and

a storage control means for controlling data in the storage means.

2. The terminal device according to claim 1, wherein the storage means has a second region from which a user application program can read out only, and the storage control means moves the content written in the first region into the second region.

3. The terminal device according to claim 2, wherein the storage means has a third region in which both the system program of the terminal device and the user application program can access data that are generated when the content written into the second region is executed, and

the storage control means erases the data written in the third region at a timing allowing only the system program to intervene.

4. The terminal device according to claim 1, further comprising:
a read-out means for reading out up-data stored in a storage

medium, and wherein

the storage control means updates at least the system program based on the up-data read out by the read-out means from the storage medium.

5. The terminal device according to claim 1, wherein

the communication means downloads up-data from the server machine, and

the storage control means updates at least the system program based on the up-data downloaded by the communication means from the server machine.

6. The terminal device according to claim 2, wherein

the content is encrypted, and

the storage control means reads out and decodes the content written into the first region upon entering a public key corresponding to the encryption, and then writes the content into the second region.

7. The terminal device according to claim 1, wherein

at least one of the system program and the content includes a message digest function value, and

the storage control means inspects a data string based on the message digest function value.

8. The terminal device according to claim 6, further comprising:

means for collating at least the public key with master data

stored in the server machine.

9. The terminal device according to claim 7, further comprising:
means for collating at least the message digest function value
with master data stored in the server machine.

10. The terminal device according to claim 1, wherein the content
is archived.

11. A terminal device, comprising:
a communication unit operable to access a server machine via
a network;
a storage unit operable to store content downloaded by the
communication unit from the server machine, the storage unit having
a first region which only a system program of the terminal device
can access; and
a storage control unit operable to control data in the storage
unit.

12. An entertainment system, comprising:
a server machine operable to distribute content via a network
to which the server machine is connected; and
a terminal device connected to the network and operable to
control data in a storage unit which stores content downloaded from
the server machine and which has a first region which only a system
program of the terminal device can access.

13. The entertainment system according to claim 12, wherein the storage unit has a second region from which a user application program can read out only, and the terminal device is operable to move the content written in the first region into the second region.

14. The entertainment system according to claim 13, wherein the storage unit has a third region which both the system program of the terminal device and the user application program can access, and the terminal device is operable to write data generated when the content written into the second region is executed into the third region and to erase the data from the third region at a timing allowing only the system program to intervene.

15. The entertainment system according to claim 12, wherein the terminal device further comprises a read-out unit operable to read out up-data stored in a storage media, the terminal device being operable to update at least the system program based on the up-data read out by the read-out unit from the storage media.

16. The entertainment system according to claim 12, wherein the terminal device is operable to download up-data from the server machine, and to update at least the system program based on the up-data downloaded from the server machine.

17. The entertainment system according to claim 13, wherein the content downloaded from the server machine is encrypted, and

the terminal device reads out and decodes the content written into the first region upon entering a public key corresponding to the encryption, and then writes the content into the second region.

18. The entertainment system according to claim 13, wherein at least one of the system program and the content includes a message digest function value, and

the terminal device inspects a data string based on the message digest function value.

19. The entertainment system according to claim 17, wherein the terminal device further comprises means for collating at least the public key with master data stored in the server machine.

20. The entertainment system according to claim 18, wherein the terminal device further comprises means for collating at least the message digest function value with master data stored in the server machine.

21. The entertainment system according to claim 12, wherein the content is archived.

22. A method for managing content, comprising:

writing downloaded content into a first region of a storage unit which only a system program of a terminal device for downloading the content can access; and

moving the content written in the first region of the storage

unit into a second region of the storage unit from which a user application program can read out only, based on predetermined information.

23. The method for managing content according to claim 22, further comprising:

writing data generated when the content written in the second region of the storage unit is executed into a third region of the storage unit which both the system program and the user application program can access; and

erasing the data from the third region of the storage unit at a timing allowing only the system program to intervene.

24. The method for managing content according to claim 22, further comprising:

reading out up-data stored in a storage medium; and

updating at least the system program based on the up-data read out from the storage medium.

25. The method for managing content according to claim 22, further comprising:

updating at least the system program based on up-data downloaded via a network.

26. The method for managing content according to claim 22, further comprising:

reading out and decoding the content written in the first region

of the storage unit upon entering a public key corresponding to the encryption of the content subjected to the encryption; and

writing the read-out content into the second region of the storage unit.

27. The method for managing content according to claim 22, further comprising:

inspecting a data string based on a message digest function value included in at least one of the system program and the content.

28. The method for managing content according to claim 26, further comprising:

inspecting the public key by collating at least the public key with master data stored in the server machine.

29. The method for managing content according to claim 27, further comprising:

inspecting the message digest function value by collating at least the message digest function value with master data stored in the server machine.

30. The method for managing content according to claim 22, wherein the content is archived.

31. A storage medium having recorded therein an information processing program to be executed on a computer, wherein the information processing program comprises:

writing downloaded content into a first region of a storage unit which only a system program of a terminal device for downloading the content can access; and

moving the content written in the first region of the storage unit into a second region of the storage unit from which a user application program can read out only, based on predetermined information.

32. The storage medium according to claim 31, wherein the information processing program further comprises:

writing data generated when the content written in the second region of the storage unit is executed into a third region of the storage unit which both the system program and the user application program can access; and

erasing the data from the third region of the storage unit at a timing allowing only the system program to intervene.

33. The storage medium according to claim 31, wherein the information processing program further comprises:

reading out up-data stored in a storage medium; and

updating at least the system program based on the up-data read out from the storage medium.

34. The storage medium according to claim 31, wherein the information processing program further comprises:

updating at least the system program based on up-data downloaded via a network.

35. The storage medium according to claim 31, wherein the information processing program further comprises:

reading out and decoding the content written in the first region of the storage unit upon entering a public key corresponding to the encryption of the content subjected to the encryption; and

writing the read-out content into the second region of the storage unit.

36. The storage medium according to claim 31, wherein the information processing program further comprises:

inspecting a data string based on a message digest function value included in at least one of the system program and the content.

37. The storage medium according to claim 35, wherein the information processing program further comprises:

inspecting the public key by collating at least the public key with master data stored in the server machine.

38. The storage medium according to claim 36, wherein the information processing program further comprises:

inspecting the message digest function value by collating at least the message digest function value with master data stored in the server machine.

39. The storage medium according to claim 31, wherein the content is archived.